

Application No. 10/657,512  
Amendment dated SEPTEMBER 6, 2006  
Reply to Office Action dated June 6, 2006

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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1 – 33. (Canceled)

34. (Previously presented) A method of creating a groove in a surface of a collector ring of an electrical device, the method comprising:

cutting the groove in the surface of the collector ring using a hand held rotary grinder;  
wherein the collector ring remains coupled to at least a portion of the electrical device when creating the groove in the surface of the collector ring.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the electrical device comprises a large industrial generator.

37. (Previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the electrical device comprises an industrial power plant generator.

38. (Previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the electrical device comprises an electrical motor.

39-45. (Cancelled)

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46. (Previously Presented) A method of creating a groove in a surface of a collector ring for use in an industrial power plant generator, the method comprising:

cutting the groove in the surface of the collector ring using a hand held rotary grinder, wherein the collector ring remains coupled to at least a portion of the electrical generator when creating the groove in the surface of the collector ring; and

wherein the collector ring is cylindrical in shape with an outer peripheral surface, the groove being formed around the outer peripheral surface.

47-50. (Cancelled)

51. (Previously presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the groove that is created is a helical shaped groove about the surface of the collector ring.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the groove forms a helical or spiral shape about the outer peripheral surface of the cylindrical collector ring.

53. (Cancelled)

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the groove is not present before the method is performed.

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the groove has a first depth before the method is performed and a second depth after the method is performed and wherein the second depth is greater than the first depth.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein the finished depth of the groove is between 0.02 inches and 0.375 inches.

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the groove is not present before the method is performed.

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58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the groove has a first depth before the method is performed and a second depth after the method is performed and wherein the second depth is greater than the first depth.

59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 58, wherein the finished depth of the groove is between 0.02 inches and 0.375 inches.

60. (Previously presented) A method of creating a groove in a surface of a collector ring of an electrical device, the method comprising:

cutting the groove in the surface of the collector ring using a cutting tool that has a cutting action that functions independently from the motion of the collector ring;

wherein the groove is not present before the method is performed; and

wherein the collector ring remains coupled to at least a portion of the electrical device when creating the groove in the surface of the collector ring.

61. (Previously presented) A method of creating a groove in a surface of a collector ring of an electrical device, the method comprising:

cutting the groove in the surface of the collector ring using a cutting tool that has a cutting action that functions independently from the motion of the collector ring;

wherein the groove has a first depth before the method is performed and a second depth after the method is performed and wherein the second depth is greater than the first depth; and

wherein the collector ring remains coupled to at least a portion of the electrical device when creating the groove in the surface of the collector ring.

62. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 61, wherein the finished depth of the groove is between 0.02 inches and 0.375 inches.